

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 35

INTRODUCED BY C. HARRIS, BIXBY, CARNEY, CYR, DELL, EGGERS, R. ERICKSON, FACEY,
GALVIN-HALCRO, GILLAN, GUTSCHE, HURDLE, JACOBSON, JUNEAU, LASLOVICH, LAWSON,
LINDEEN, MANGAN, MUSGROVE, NEWMAN, RASER, SCHMIDT, B. THOMAS, WANZENRIED,
WOLERY

A JOINT RESOLUTION OF THE SENATE AND THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF
MONTANA REQUESTING AN INTERIM STUDY OF THE FEASIBILITY OF ESTABLISHING A TUITION
PREPAYMENT PROGRAM WITHIN THE MONTANA UNIVERSITY SYSTEM.

WHEREAS, the tuition for resident students in the Montana University System more than doubled
from 1992 to 2000; and

WHEREAS, the tuition rates for all students, resident and nonresident, will increase by 3% annually
in the 2003 biennium from the fiscal 2001 level; and

WHEREAS, today a postsecondary degree or certificate is ~~necessary~~ ADVANTAGEOUS for students
~~to find~~ SEEKING work that will provide a living wage; and

WHEREAS, parents need to be able to find ways to pay for their children's education.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE AND THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE
STATE OF MONTANA:

That the Legislative Council be requested to designate an appropriate interim committee, pursuant
to section 5-5-217, MCA, or direct sufficient staff resources to conduct a study of the feasibility of
establishing a tuition prepayment program within the Montana University System.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the committee or the staff consider the inclusion of the following
components of a tuition prepayment program in the study:

- (1) the prepayment would cover at least 2 years of a full course load at the selected institution;
- (2) the prepayment would be the amount of tuition in the year that the prepayment is made;
- (3) the prepayment would cover the tuition of a student enrolled not earlier than 3 years after the
prepayment is made; and
- (4) the prepayment could be made by any person on behalf of that person or on behalf of another

1 person.

2 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that if the study is assigned to staff, any findings or conclusions be
3 presented to and reviewed by an appropriate committee designated by the Legislative Council.

4 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that all aspects of the study, including presentation and review
5 requirements, be concluded prior to September 15, 2002.

6 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the final results of the study, including any findings, conclusions,
7 comments, or recommendations of the appropriate committee, be reported to the 58th Legislature.

8 - END -